

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 /046 W

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R 230900Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5473

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 6017

DEPT ALSO FOR AID

BANGKOK FOR RCMD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, LA

SUBJECT: USAID/LAOS CONTRACT AID-439-CS-012 AND OTHER DEALINGS
WITH MANLEY ENTERPRISES INTERNATIONAL

REF: A) STATE 235388

B) STATE 235850

C) STATE 236391

D) BANGKOK 20985

1. INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE CONTAINED REFS A, B AND C APPRECIATED. MANLEY INFORMED. HE PONDERED MATTER FOR SOME DAYS AND WE FINALLY FORCED ISSUE BY PREPARING A DRAFT NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY IN WHICH MANLEY CONCURRED, WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS. NOTE STATES SIMPLY THAT EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY DISCOVERED EXISTENCE OF LARGE QUANTITY-- APPROXIMATELY 30 LARGE TRUCK-LOADS -- OF JUTE BAGS WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO BE USAID PROJECT-FUNDED MATERIEL WITHIN MEANING OF SUBPARAGRAPH 1(A) OF NOTE 293 OF JUNE 9, 1975 (STATE 133675) AND THUS DESTINED FOR PGNU AND INVITES PGNU TO DESIGNATE A REPRESENTATIVE TO ARRANGE WITH EMBASSY FOR REMOVAL OF BAGS FROM PRE-SENT LOCATIONS.

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2. MEAMACHILE, WE ARE PREPARING DOCUMENT TO INDICATE

RECEIPT OF BAGS FROM MANLEY. SEE NO REASON WHY EMB
REP CANNOT WITNESS PART OR ALL OF ACTUAL REMOVAL OF
BAGS AND COUNT THEM AGAIN AT THAT TIME.

3. MANLEY INTENDS TO PREPARE CLAIM ON "PUBLIC VOUCHER"
FORMS WHICH HE ALREADY HAS AND GIVE FORMS AND SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS TO US FOR POUCHING TO AID/W. WE HAVE REMINDED
HIM OF RECOMMENDATION IN STATE 200701 THAT DOCUMENTA-
TION INCLUDE COPIES OF COMPANY RECORDS SUPPORTING PAY-
MENT FOR BAGS.

4. REGARDING REF C, PARA 2, IT WAS MANLEY'S IMPRESSION
THAT USAID STILL OWED UNSPECIFIED PAYMENTS TO RAL AND
THAT SUCH PAYMENTS MIGHT BE DELAYED OR WITHHELD PENDING
RAL'S PAYMENT OF INSURANCE PREMIUM TO HIM. WE HAVE NO
OTHER LEVERAGE ON RAL. HOWEVER, MANLEY RECETLY TOLD
US HE HAD ARRANGED RENEWAL OF INSURANCE ON SOME OR
ALL RAL AIRCRAFT, INDICATING THAT HIS DEALINGS WITH
RAL MUST BE AT LEAST SOMEWHAT SATISFACTORY.

5. REGARDING REF D, MANLEY QUESTIONS LEGALITY OF
RCMO'S ACTION IN TAKING POSSESSION OF SPARE PARTS,
INASMUCH AS HE IS CONSIGNEE ON BILL OF LADING AND
SPARE PARTS, HE CLAIMS HAVE ALREADY BEEN PAID FOR.
WE TOLD MANLEY WE THOUGHT THIS WAS PRIMARILY A LEGAL
MATTER IN WHICH WE COULD NOT APPROPRIATELY ACT FOR
HIM. WE URGED HIM TO DISCUSS MATTER DIRECTLY WITH
RCMO DURING A BUSINESS TRIP TO BANGKOK HE PLANNED TO
MAKE WEEK OF OCTOBER 20.
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